

Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee

Minutes for December 1, 2003

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Ron Sender, Stephan Miller, Christopher Tonkin, and Ted Packard. Others present were Joey Glushko, Bobby Mac, Gareth Williams, Bryce Nesbitt, and Hank Thidemann.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

We spend a few minutes talking about conversations about bicycling that we've had since the last meeting.

*The November minutes were accepted without amendments.

ABAC Banner. Jack asked Elizabeth Carr-Jones if she could make a banner for ABAC to be used to identify the committee table at public events. Elizabeth can make the banner and associated hardware for \$100. Jack suggested yellow with black lettering for the color scheme. Christopher would like to see blue with white. We decided that the banner should read Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee and include a bicycle or Minuteman logo. We also compromised on yellow with blue lettering to match the T shirts we made last summer.

*A motion was passed to allocate \$100 for the banner.

MDC Master Plan for the Alewife Reservation (Bryce). The responsibilities of the old MDC will be taken over by a new agency, the DCR (Department of Conservation and Recreation). Our concern is the bicycle path connections in the Reservation. Alewife Station is the hub of five different paths existing and planned that will reach from Blanchard. St. in Belmont to the Mystic River in Medford. There are plans for a stone dust path on both sides of the brook nearly all the way from Alewife station to the river. At this point this is just a plan and there is no funding for its execution.

Bryce asked us what we saw as the next step in the process of making the paths a reality. We thought that getting MassHighway to act on building the Fitchburg cutoff to Belmont is the next step as this work has already been funded.

Bryce informed us of other potential paths in and around Arlington which at the conceptual stage of planning. These include paths along the Mystic River, a path to connect the lower Mystic Lake with the Minuteman Bikeway and many other possible connections in the Alewife and Mystic River/Lakes regions.

Bryce suggested that ABAC should adopt an MDC path such as the Alewife Cutoff. This provoked an action item.

Action Item. We should dig up our solution, formulated last spring, for routing pedestrians and bicycles from Mass. Ave. to the Minuteman bikeway.

Alternative Transportation Fair. Someone from ABAC needs to attend the next meeting of the Recreation Committee to ask for the use of the recreation center for the transportation fair. As of today we are still looking for a site.

Winter social. We reserved the Whittemore-Robbins house for the Winter Social on February 5. Bobby Mac volunteered to bring pastries. Jack talked about the agenda. We will promote the event through The Advocate and bicycle mailing lists. Christopher and Stephan volunteered to be responsible for providing coffee.

Cable access TV program. Some of us will take a workshop on TV production sometime in January. There have been many in the local bicycle community interested in participating in producing a cable TV show about bicycling. Jack suggested January 12 for the workshop. Our goal is to have a TV show completed by next winter.

Jack showed us a press release he wrote detailing the dates for next year's ABAC meetings.

We spent a few minutes discussing other upcoming events.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07

These minutes were taken by Stephan Miller.

* Denotes a vote was taken.